

All pending claims are listed below:

Listing of Pending Claims:

1-30. (Cancelled).

31. (Original) A method of sparing tissue levels of α_1 -antitrypsin in an animal, comprising administering an effective dose of a nitric oxide synthase inhibitor.

32. (Original) The method of claim 31, in which the animal is a human.

33. (Original) The method of claim 31, in which the nitric oxide synthase inhibitor comprises: N^G-nitro-L-arginine methyl ester, N^G-nitro-L-arginine, N^G-methyl-L-arginine, N,N'-dimethylarginine, N^G-monoethyl-L-arginine acetate, N^G-monomethyl-L-arginine acetate, N^G-monomethyl-D-arginine, N^G-monomethyl-L-homoarginine acetate, N^G-nitro-D-arginine, N^G-nitro-D-arginine methyl ester hydrochloride, ω -nitro-L-arginine, L-N⁶-(1-iminoethyl)lysine, aminoguanidine, S-methylisothiouraea sulfate, S-ethylisothiouraea sulfate, S-aminoethylisothiouraea sulfate, mercaptoethylguanidine, 2,4-diamino-6-hydroxypyrimidine, diphenyleneiodonium chloride, 2-ethyl-2-thiopseudourea hydrobromide, 2-iminobiotin, L-N⁵-(1-iminoethyl)ornithine hydrochloride, S-methyl-L-thiocitrulline dihydrochloride, *p*-nitroblue tetrazolium chloride, 3-bromo-7-nitroindazole, pentamidine isethionate, 1-pyrrolidinecarbodithioic acid, spermidine, spermine, spermine-NO, 3-morpholinoysonimine-N-ethyl-carbamide, L-thiocitrulline, troleandomycin, 7-nitroindazole, hemoglobin, myoglobin, cytochrome V, S-nitroso-N-acetylpenicillamine S-nitrosoglutathione, or nitroglycerine, or pharmaceutically acceptable free bases thereof, or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

34-36. (Cancelled).